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CONSUMERS' COUNSEL

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STOCKINGS

CONSUMER TIPS > >

BUYING WOMEN'S STOCKINGS

(Information from Bureau of Home Economics, USDA)

1. Fiber - cotton, rayon, wool, silk, or mixture. Choose for needs and suitability for use.

2. Weight (silk) - buy according to use: sheers for dress; medium or service weights for general wear. Sheers (2 or 3 thread) get high gauge (51, 54, or more); service weights (6 thread & up), low gauge (39, 42, 45).

3. Texture - yarns should be tightly twisted and closely knitted to resist snagging.

4. Construction - full fashioned: knit to fit knee, calf, ankle, heel smoothly. Genuine seam at back. (over)

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5. Elasticity - ankle and top should stretch easily and go back into shape.

6. Reinforcements - foot and top should be well reinforced but not too heavily for rest of stocking.

7. Size - foot size should be ½ inch longer than foot. Should be right length in leg.

8. Special fit - outsizes, 2-way-stretch, narrow heels, other special features may give better fit and wear.

9. Appearance - look for yarn imperfections, rings, or up-and-down stripes.

10. Colorfastness - color should be fast to washing, light, and perspiration.

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